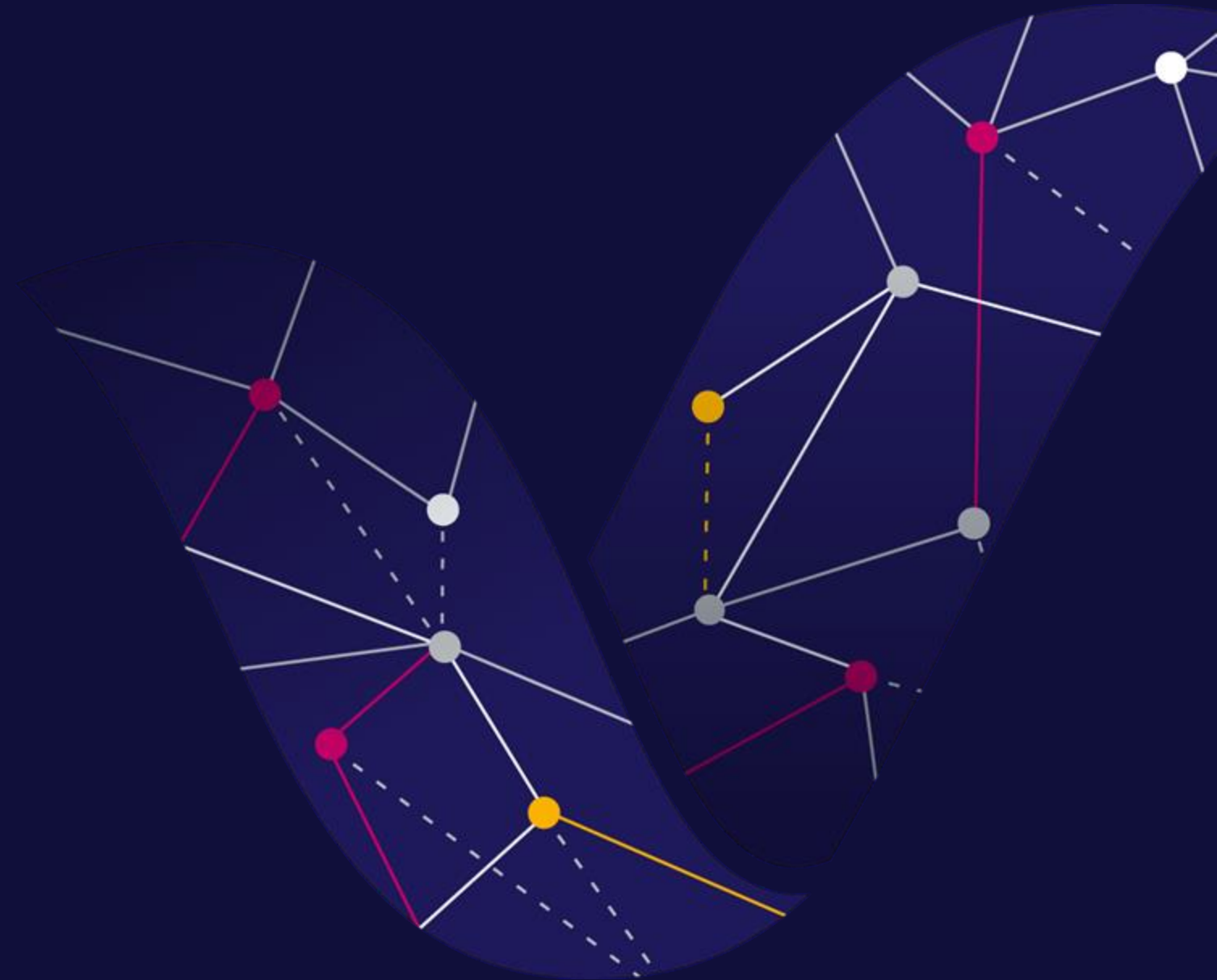




Asset health and resilience

Roundtable, 26th November 2025

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VAPRI – The Vallorri Price of Risk Model Today: Asset health in infrastructure

July 2025



Introduction of VAPRI

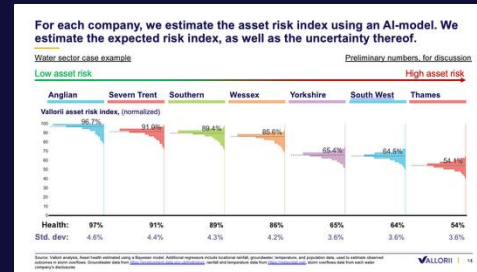
- Construction risks in greenfield CapEx
- Counterparty risks
- **Case study:** CoE for new water sector major projects

September 2025



- Macroeconomic risks, especially UK bond market
- Balance sheet details for brownfield assets
- **Case study:** London Heathrow

November 2025



- Vallorri asset resilience index (VARI)
- Valuation and CoE implications of asset risks

Key themes for 2026 roundtables (preliminary):

- Affordability
- Depreciation
- Financial resilience
- Geopolitics
- Liquidity
- Stock markets


Today: We discuss asset health and resilience in brownfield infrastructure

Risks analysed in 2025

- Bond market risks
- Illiquidity risks
- Counterparty & Financial default risks
- Infrastructure demand risks
- System risks
- Construction risks
- Political / regulatory risks
- **Asset health risks**
- Exchange rate risks
- ...

Risks to be considered in 2026

Asset resilience is under scrutiny. Performance penalties are piling up in the water sector. Electricity networks are under the microscope after the LHR outage. Gas networks need to replace aging assets amidst depreciation discussions.



The image shows three overlapping news snippets. The top snippet is from The Guardian, dated 8 May, with the headline 'Average water bills likely to hit £2,000 a year by 2050, says Ofwat'. The middle snippet is from BBC, dated 4 weeks ago, with the headline 'Water bills to rise further for millions after appeal'. The bottom snippet is also from BBC, dated 19 Dec 2024, with the headline 'Water bills to rise by £86 on average next year, Ofwat says'. Each snippet includes a small image related to water usage.

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VAPRI provides a new lens on cost of equity across infrastructure assets

Cost of Capital Lab



Company database



New beta version available to Founding Members

IRR database



Under development

Sector		Asset	CAPM, real	Risk-based CoE VAPRI, real (prelim.)	Allowed RoE VAPRI, real (prelim.)
Electricity Generation		Offshore wind (2025 AR7 CfD)	~14% (DESNZ)	9.7 – 10.6%	N/A
		Hinkley Point C (2015 CfD)	5.7 – 7.3%	13.5 – 15.5%	N/A
		Sizewell C (RAB)		10.0 – 12.0%	N/A
Electricity Transmission		National Grid	5.64% (Ofgem T3 DD)	5.6 – 7.8%	
		SSE		7.8 – 8.7%	
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Electricity Distribution		National Grid	5.23% (Ofgem ED2 FD) ED3 SSMC expected Sep/Oct 2025	5.3 – 6.5%	
		SSE		5.9 – 6.6%	
		Scottish Power		6.4 – 7.2%	
		UKPN		4.6 – 6.0%	
Gas Transmission & Distribution		National Gas	6.04% (Ofgem T3 DD)	5.4 – 5.9%	Notional company perspective under development
		Cadent Gas		6.3 – 7.4%	
		Northern Gas Network		4.7 – 5.6%	
		SGN		6.3 – 7.5%	
Telecoms		5G Auctions	5.5 – 7.9%	10.4 – 13.1%	
Water (Sewage)		Beckton Water Recycling DPC	6.3%	9.2 – 9.6%	
		HARP & Cheddar II DPC		7.7 – 8.5%	
Water (combined)		Anglian	5.9% (CMA prov. Appeals decision)	6.7 – 7.5%	
		Severn Trent		6.4 – 6.8%	
		Southern		7.1 – 7.9%	
		South West (Pennon)		6.4 – 6.8%	
		Thames		10.3 – 11.9% ← Excluding short-term default risk	
		Wessex		7.1 – 7.5%	
		Yorkshire		6.8 – 7.2%	
Airports		London Heathrow (excl. 3 rd runway)	8.87% (LHR BP)	7.0 – 8.5%	
		London Gatwick (excl. 2 nd runway)	8.6% (CoC Lab)	7.4 – 8.9%	
		Manchester		7.5 – 9.0%	

Case study today

Agenda

Vallorri Price of Risk Model (VAPRI): AI-enabled, forward-looking return & valuation analysis

Vallorri Asset Resilience Index (VARI): AI-enabled resilience analysis based on asset performance

- 1** **How can we use AI to measure asset resilience?**

AI**

 - UK assets lag European comparators in key performance indicators for wastewater, electricity and rail
 - New Vallorri AI-based Asset Resilience Index (VARI) for infrastructure using performance and environmental data
 - **Case study:** VARI scores across UK wastewater—Anglian and Severn Trent lead the index, Southern shows high resilience despite ODI penalties, Thames, South West, Yorkshire are lagging

- 2** **How does asset resilience impact infrastructure valuation and cost of equity?**

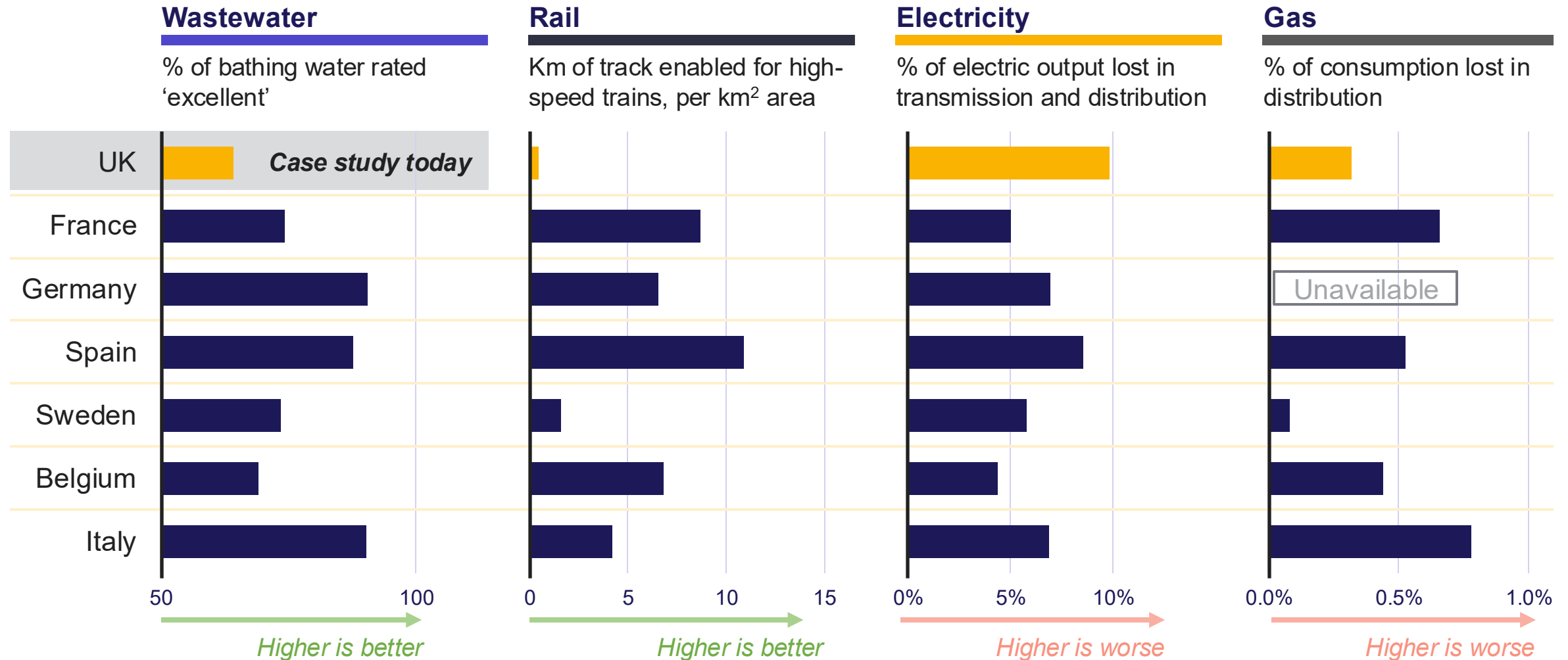
 - Asset resilience directly impacts valuations and the cost of equity
 - **Case study:** VAPRI estimates equity valuation impacts ranging from 15% premium (Anglian) to 53% discount (Thames), based on VARI scores and the CMA’s October 2025 5.9% real CoE target

- 3** **How to increase consumer trust and fund asset resilience improvements?**

 - Monitoring and asset health metrics (e.g., Ofgem NARM) can improve trust with transparency
 - Could the supervisory model (Cunliffe report) drive long-term improvements in the water sector?

Asset performance varies by country and sector. UK is lagging Europe, particularly in Electricity, Wastewater and Rail.

Preliminary numbers, for discussion

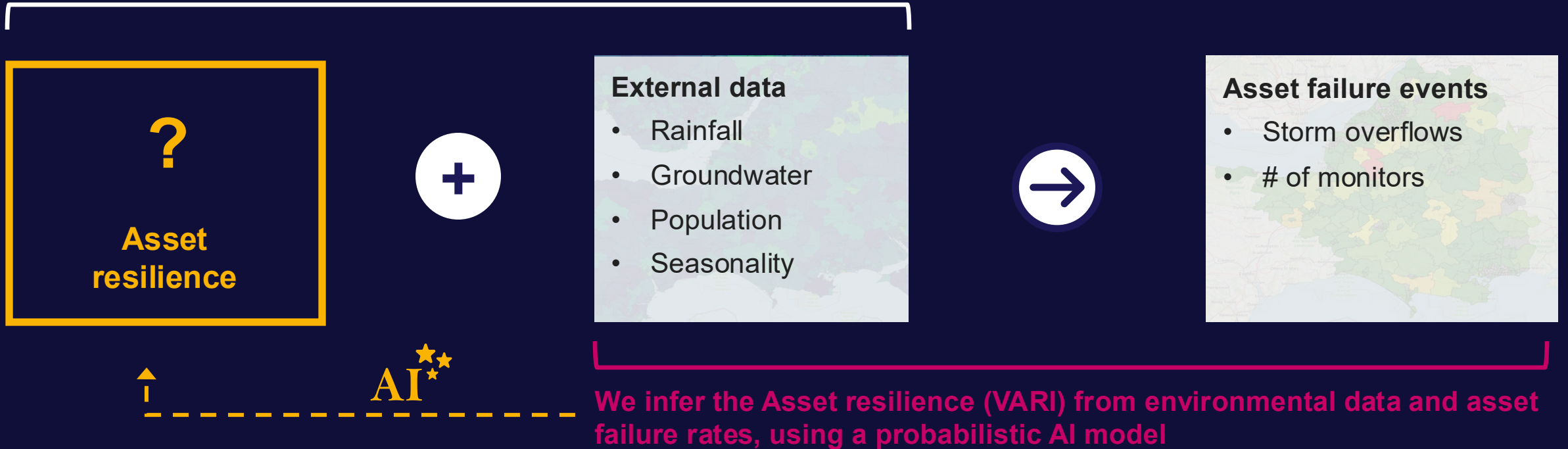


Source: Water: Environment Agency, European Environment Agency (2024), Rail: UIC (2025), Electricity: IEA Energy Statistics Data Browser (2023), Gas: Eurostat, Dukes, NGT UAGCVS Report (2024, 25)

Vallorii AI-based Asset Resilience Index (VARI) quantifies the sensitivity of asset performance to environmental data.

Wastewater case example

If asset resilience is **high**, assets are insensitive to environmental events. If asset resilience is **low**, asset performance is highly sensitive to the environment.



Assets react to environmental events. Resilient assets are less sensitive to their environment; risky assets are highly sensitive.

Wastewater case example

Preliminary numbers, for discussion

High asset resilience

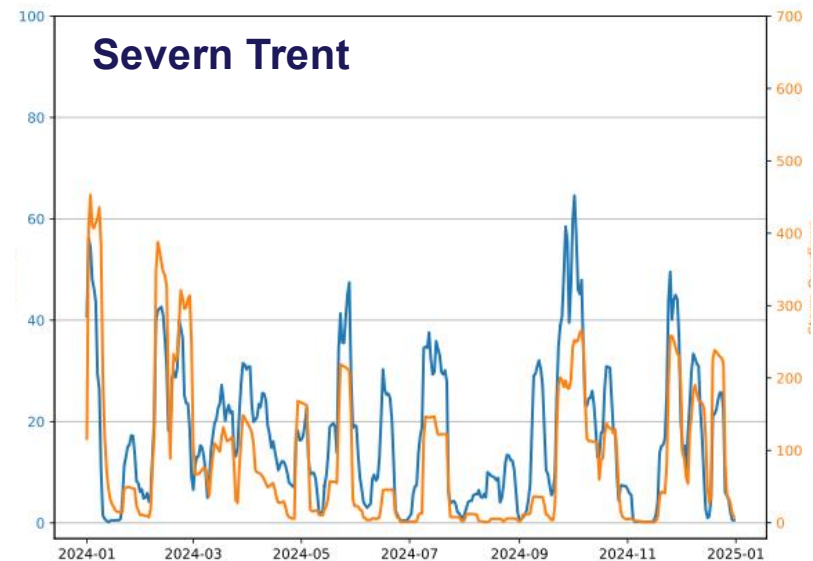
Low asset resilience

Weekly rainfall
(mm)

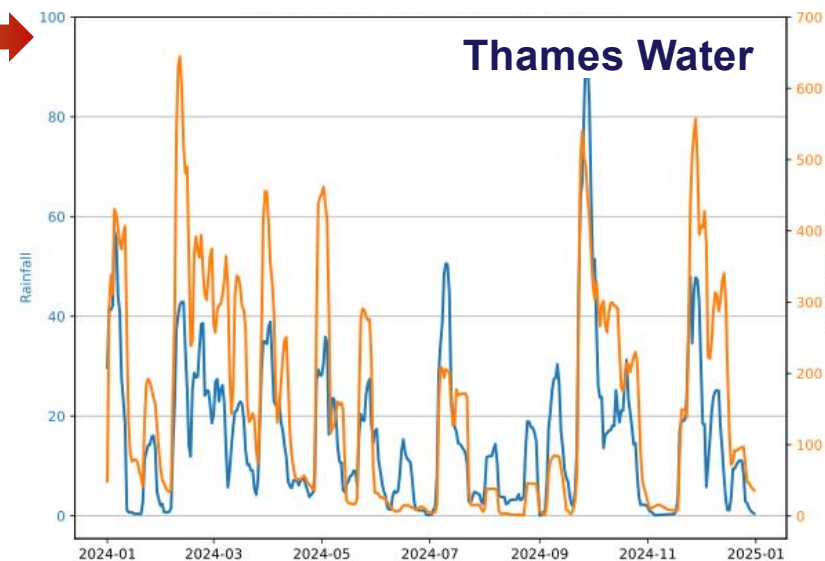
Storm overflows per monitor
(average duration, hrs)

Weekly rainfall
(mm)

Storm overflows per monitor
(average duration, hrs)



TW is more sensitive to rainfall than SVT.



Resilience may depend on:

- Asset quality & technology
- Asset capacities with respect to their environment
- Climate change
- Operational efficiency
- Network complexity
- ...

+ additional factors (groundwater, population, seasonality)

+ additional performance metrics (# of monitors)

Source: Vallorri analysis, Asset resilience estimated using a Bayesian model. Regressors include locational rainfall, groundwater, temperature, and population data, used to estimate observed outcomes in storm overflows. Groundwater data from <https://environment.data.gov.uk/hydrology>, rainfall and temperature data from <https://meteostat.net/>, storm overflows data from each water company's disclosures in 2024. Storm overflow location coordinates gathered from Stream UK

We estimate VARI across the wastewater sector. Anglian, Severn Trent, Southern, and Wessex show highest resiliency indices.

Wastewater case example

Preliminary numbers, for discussion

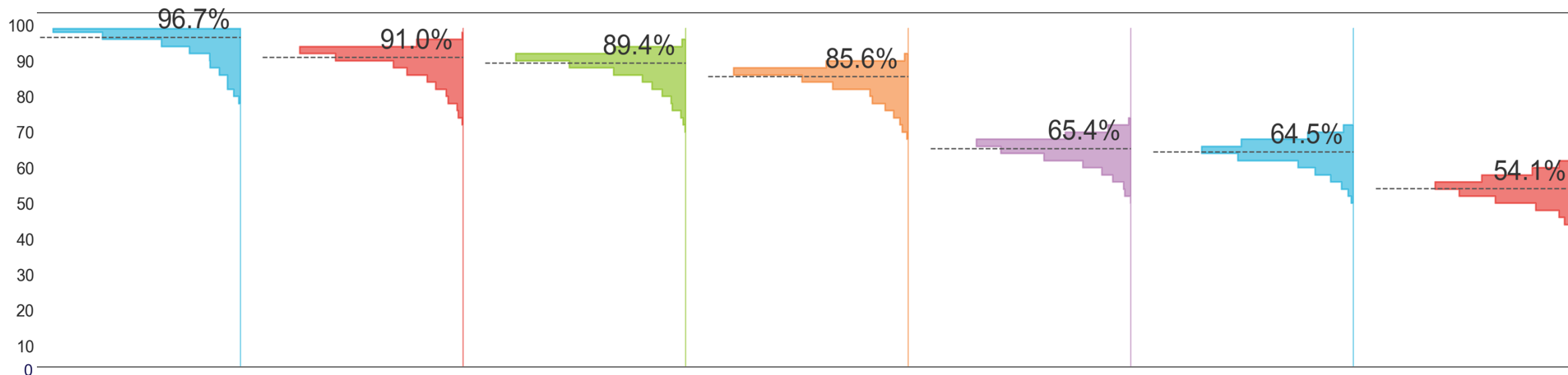
High asset resilience

Remaining wastewater companies excluded due to absence of data

Low asset resilience

Anglian Severn Trent Southern Wessex Yorkshire South West Thames

Vallorii asset resilience index, (normalized)



100: High asset resilience. Assets are insensitive to environmental stress.

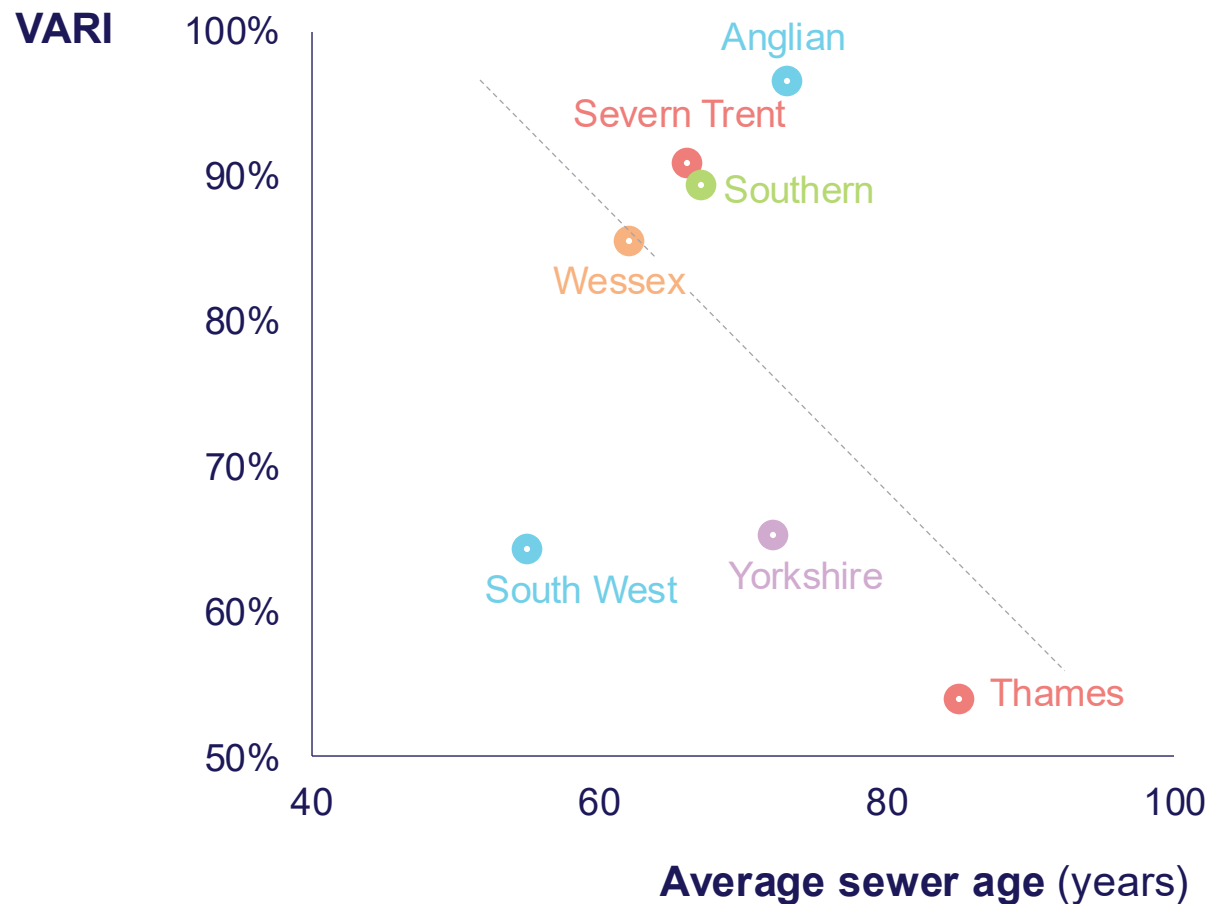
0: Low asset resilience. Assets are highly sensitive and fail quickly under environmental stress.


Source: Vallorii analysis, Asset resilience estimated using a Bayesian model. Regressors include locational rainfall, groundwater, temperature, and population data, used to estimate observed outcomes in storm overflows. Groundwater data from <https://environment.data.gov.uk/hydrology>, rainfall and temperature data from <https://meteostat.net/>, storm overflows data from each water company's disclosures in 2024. Storm overflow location coordinates gathered from Stream UK

There are different sources of resilience. TW low resilience may be driven by its assets' age; SW displays low resilience despite relatively young assets.


Wastewater case example

Preliminary numbers, for discussion



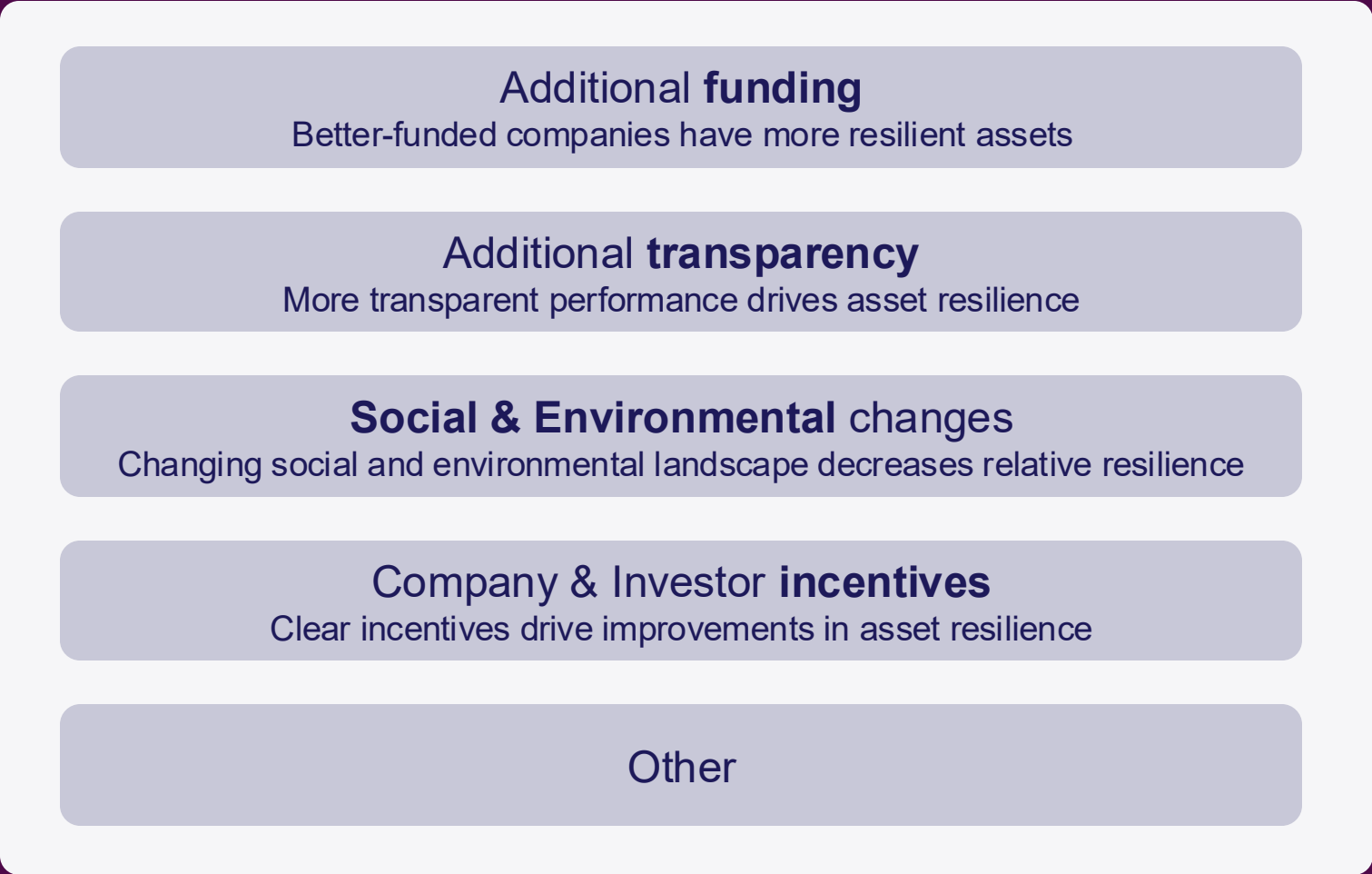
 **Vallorii asset resilience index**
The asset resilience index reflects sensitivity to environmental stress.



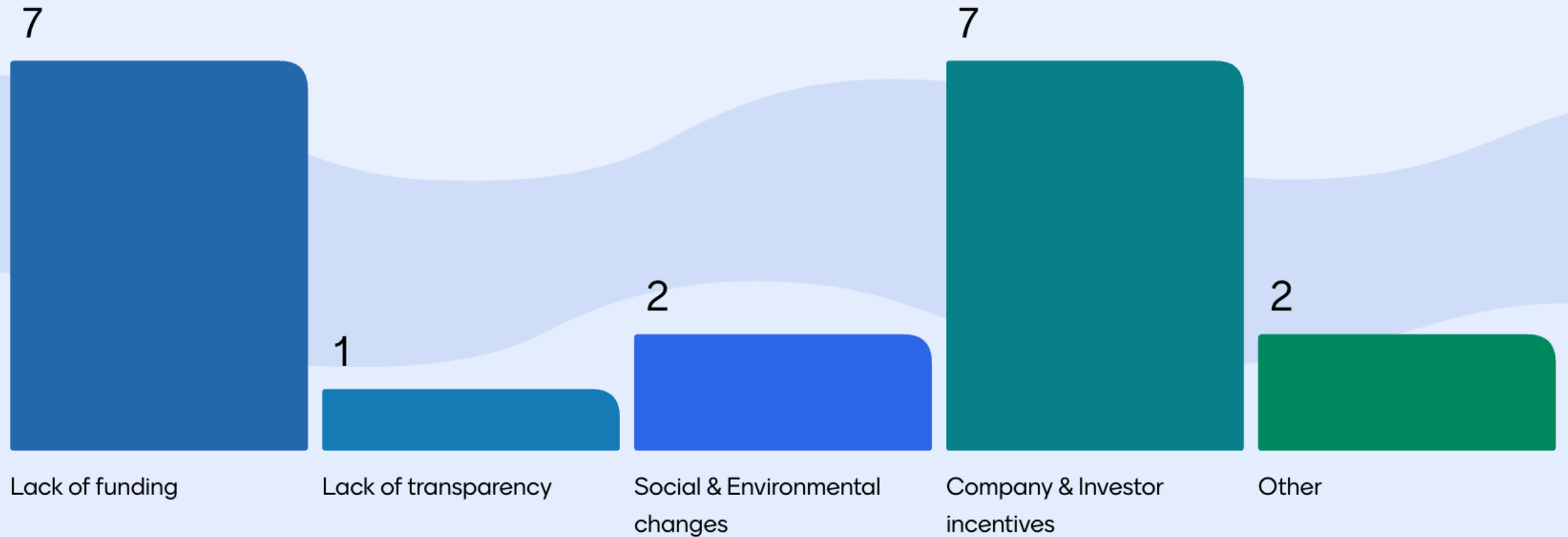
 **Average sewer age**
Older sewer systems are more likely to have poor asset resilience and outdated technological solutions.

Source: Vallorii asset resilience index, Ofwat documents, sewer age from: https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z_corporate-site/pr19/third-party/t6001_exogenous_drivers_of_wholesale_wastewater_costs.pdf

POLL #1: What is the key driver of asset resilience in infrastructure? (water, energy, transport, telecoms)



What is the key driver of asset risk in infrastructure? (water, energy, transport, telecoms)



Agenda

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2 How does asset resilience impact infrastructure valuation and cost of equity?

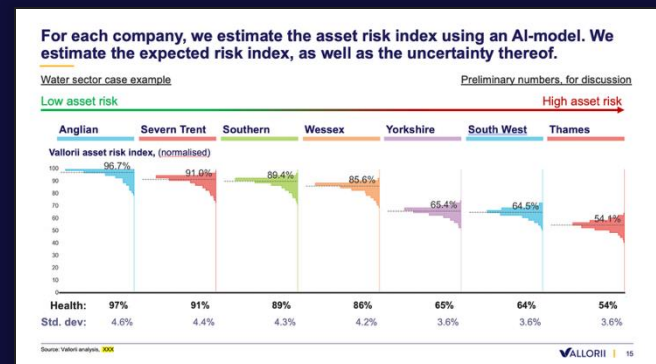
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3 How to increase consumer trust and fund asset resilience improvements?

- Monitoring and asset health metrics (e.g., Ofgem NARM) can improve trust with transparency
- Could the supervisory model (Cunliffe report) drive long-term improvements in the water sector?

We apply VAPRI to estimate the impact of the asset resilience index VARI on cash flows to equity and valuations.

Vallorii asset resilience




Asset resilience index VARI captures the risk of asset failure under different environmental conditions.



Impacts on cash flow to equity (Dividends + terminal value)

Asset resilience impacts performance penalties and operating expenditures

 Performance penalties are calibrated to observed company financials.

Low asset resilience reduces equity value at exit

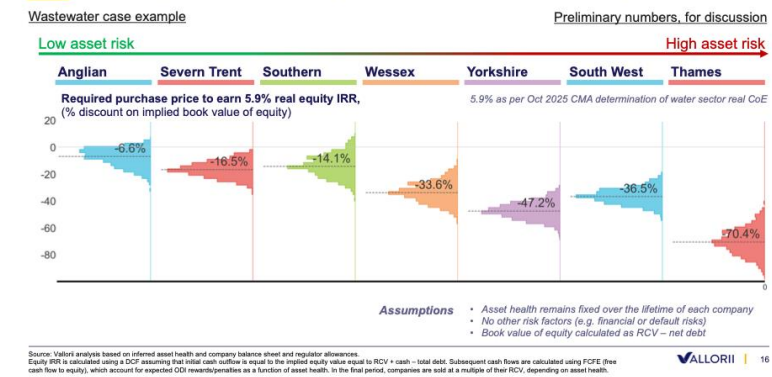


Exit multiples are calibrated to Market-to-Asset ratios.
Longer holding periods are less impacted due to discounting.



DCF quantifies IRR and valuation impacts

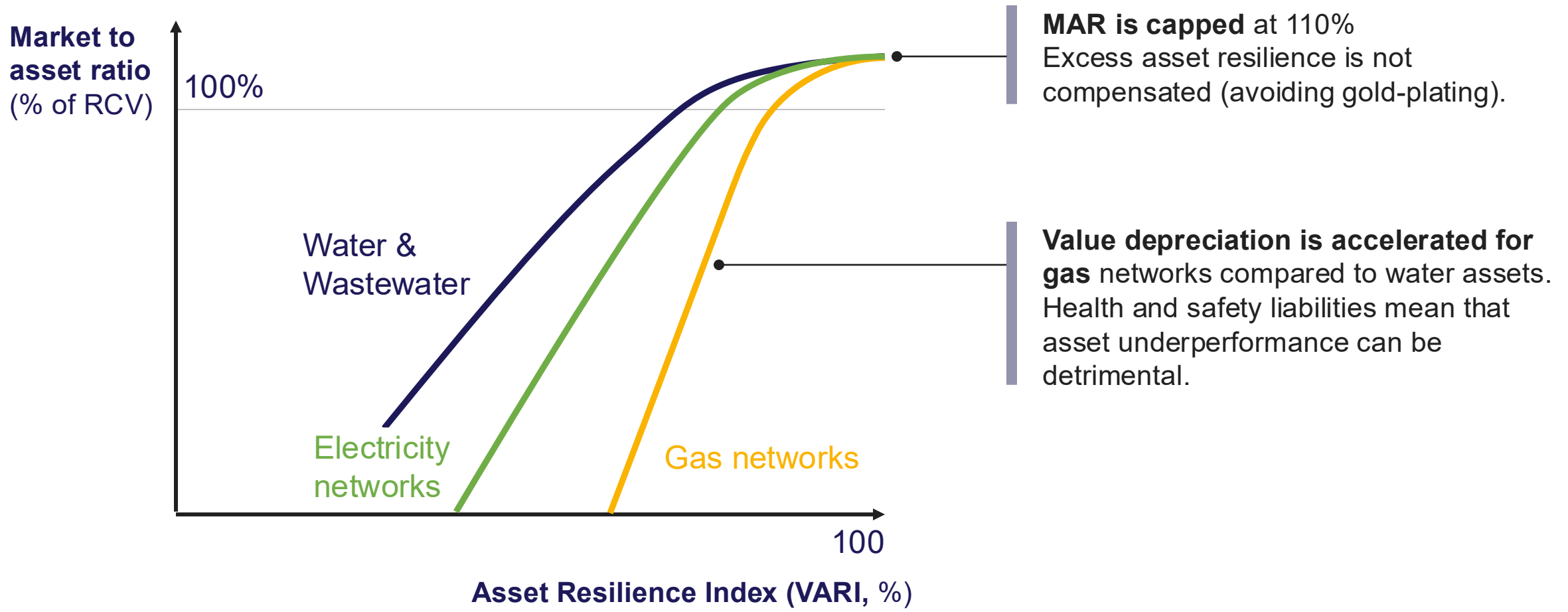
We estimate the required purchase price to earn 5.9% real equity IRR, over a 10-year holding period, assuming operations continue unchanged



IRR for equity holders given the companies' balance sheet, asset resilience, and cash flow impacts

Valuation implications of asset resilience depend on the sector. Gas is sensitive to asset resilience due to health and safety implications.

Illustrative



We estimate the required purchase price to earn 5.9% (as per CMA) real equity IRR over a 10-year holding period

Wastewater case example

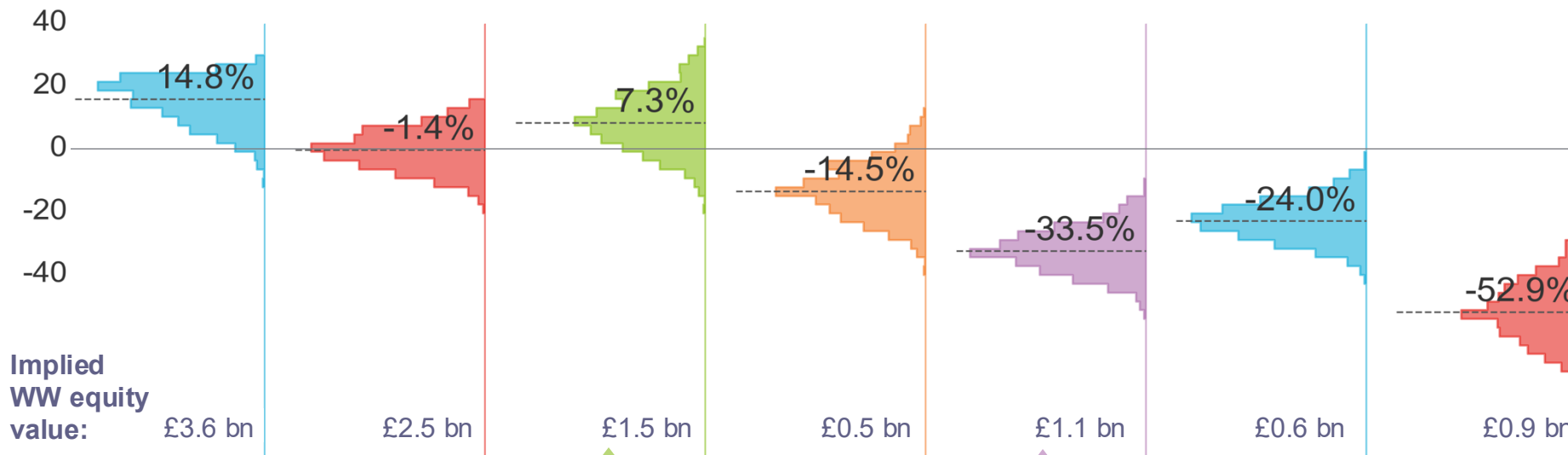
Preliminary numbers, for discussion

High asset resilience

Low asset resilience

Anglian Severn Trent Southern Wessex Yorkshire South West Thames

Required purchase price to earn 5.9% real equity IRR (CMA October 2025),
(% discount on implied book value of equity)



Southern's high gearing magnifies positive equity returns

Yorkshire's high gearing magnifies negative equity depreciation

Assumptions

- Fixed purchase price to RCV. Book value of equity calculated as RCV – net debt
- Asset resilience fixed over 10-year holding period
- No other risk factors (e.g. financial or default risks)
- 3% Cost of Debt
- 5.9% target as per Oct 2025 CMA determination of water sector CoE

Remaining wastewater companies excluded due to absence of data

Source: Vallorri analysis based on inferred asset resilience and company balance sheet and regulator allowances. Initial purchasing costs cash outflow is equal to the implied equity value equal to RCV + cash – total debt. Subsequent cash flows are calculated using FCFE (free cash flow to equity), which account for expected ODI rewards/penalties as a function of asset resilience. In the final period, companies are sold at a multiple of their RCV, depending on asset resilience.

Wessex case example: Strong asset resilience closes gap from 38.5% to 14.5% discount on equity RCV value

Wastewater case example

Preliminary numbers, for discussion

Wessex

Baseline

38.5% baseline RCV discount due to 3.5% 2024/25 real equity returns compared to 5.9% return benchmark.

+ODI impacts

Given Wessex's strong asset resilience, expected ODI rewards increase valuation in the future.

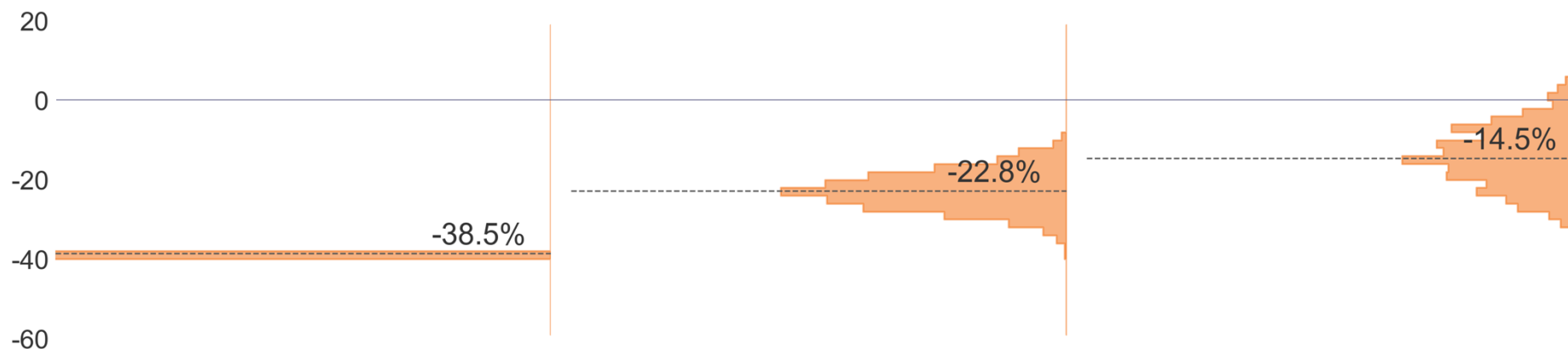
+Terminal value impacts

High asset resilience implies Wessex will be sold at 4% premium to its RCV in 2035 (10-year holding period)

+Other risks

- Bond market volatility
- Capital projects
- Illiquidity
- ...

Required purchase price to earn 5.9% real equity IRR (CMA October 2025), (% discount on implied book value of equity)



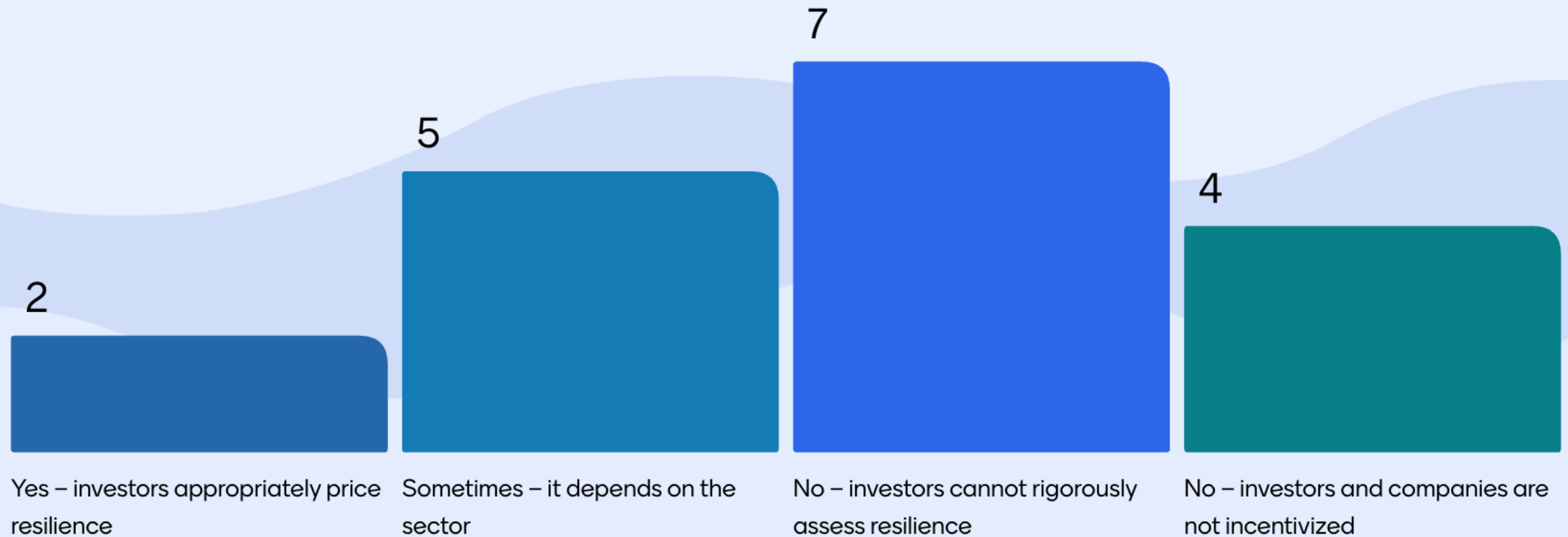
Source: Vallorri analysis based on inferred asset resilience and company balance sheet and regulator allowances.

Equity IRR is calculated using a DCF assuming that initial cash outflow is equal to the implied equity value equal to RCV + cash – total debt. Subsequent cash flows are calculated using FCFE (free cash flow to equity), which account for expected ODI rewards/penalties as a function of asset resilience. In the final period, companies are sold at a multiple of their RCV, depending on asset resilience.

POLL #2: Do market valuations adequately reward companies with strong asset resilience in infrastructure? (water, wastewater, energy, transport)

- Yes – investors appropriately price asset resilience
- Sometimes – it depends on the sector
- No – investors cannot rigorously assess resilience due to lack of transparency
- No – investors and companies are not incentivized enough to care about asset resilience

Do market valuations adequately reward companies with strong asset resilience in infrastructure? (water, wastewater, energy, transport)



VAPRI determines the fair risk-adjusted CoE. Investors are compensated for return uncertainty, measured as the width of IRR distributions.

Illustrative

Quantify distribution of equity IRR over millions of simulations

Wessex case example

Distribution of equity (IRR) returns based on underlying uncertainty

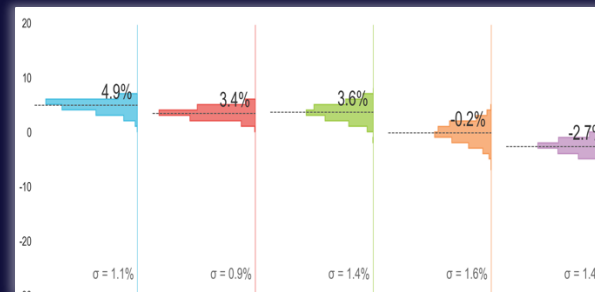


The investor **risk** is given by the **width** of the distribution.

*The cost of equity prices the **uncertainty** about future returns*



Benchmark IRR distributions

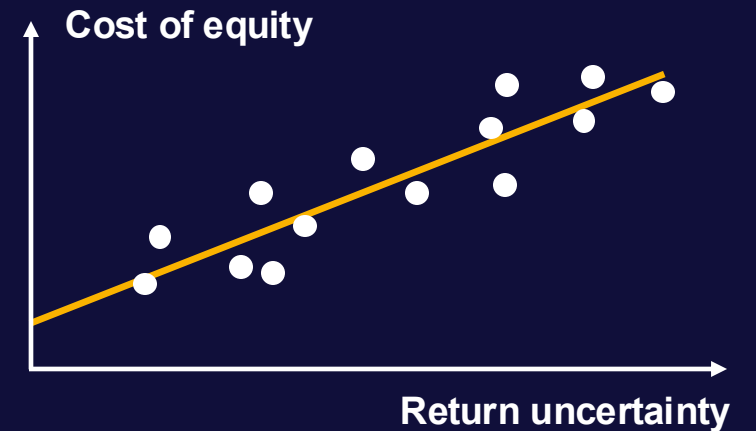


We **benchmark** investor risks across infrastructure assets.

Investments with higher uncertainty achieve higher expected returns.



Cost of equity is proportional to uncertainty in equity returns



The cost of equity is the **representative trade-off** between return uncertainty and expected return.

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Case study today

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 - Could the supervisory model (Cunliffe report) drive long-term improvements in the water sector?

There are multiple ways to improve asset resilience. Ofwat working group is currently developing a new asset risk assessment in the water sector.

1 More sticks & carrots (e.g., ODIs)

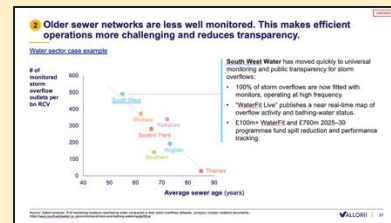
Operational performance metrics incentivise better performance of assets for equity investors.

More recently, ODIs have also been coupled with **executive compensation**.



Details next

2 Increase transparency

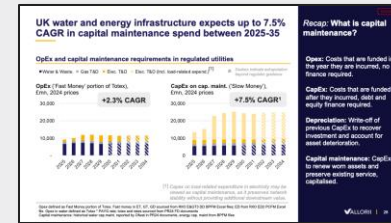


Increased transparency around asset health and resilience drives improvements and enables **targeted funding**.



Focus on January RT -- Affordability

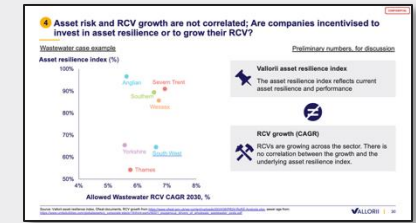
3 Increase expenditure allowances



Expenditure allowances unlock investments in asset resilience. The right **financial vehicle** (e.g., PAYG rates, RCV, Escrow accounts) balance bill impacts with financing requirements.



4 Reform regulatory accounting



Regulatory accounts that reflect the state of the assets reduces incentives for **financial engineering**.

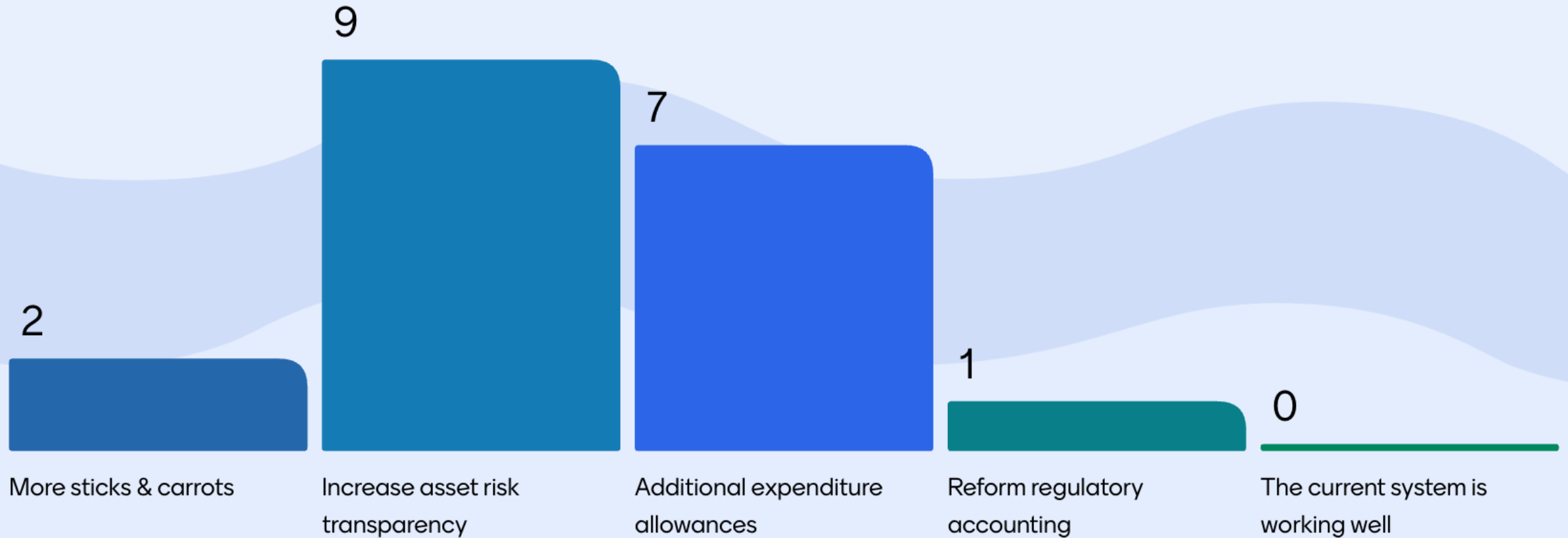


Australian regulator sets depreciation allowance based on physical condition of asset

POLL #3: What is the most effective way to incentivise water / energy / transport companies to invest in their asset resilience?

- More sticks & carrots**
(i.e. ODI rewards and penalties)
- Increase asset risk transparency**
(e.g., monitoring, NARM, Vallorii risk index)
- Additional expenditure allowances**
- Reform regulatory accounting**
(e.g., RCV to reflect asset resilience)
- The current system is working well**

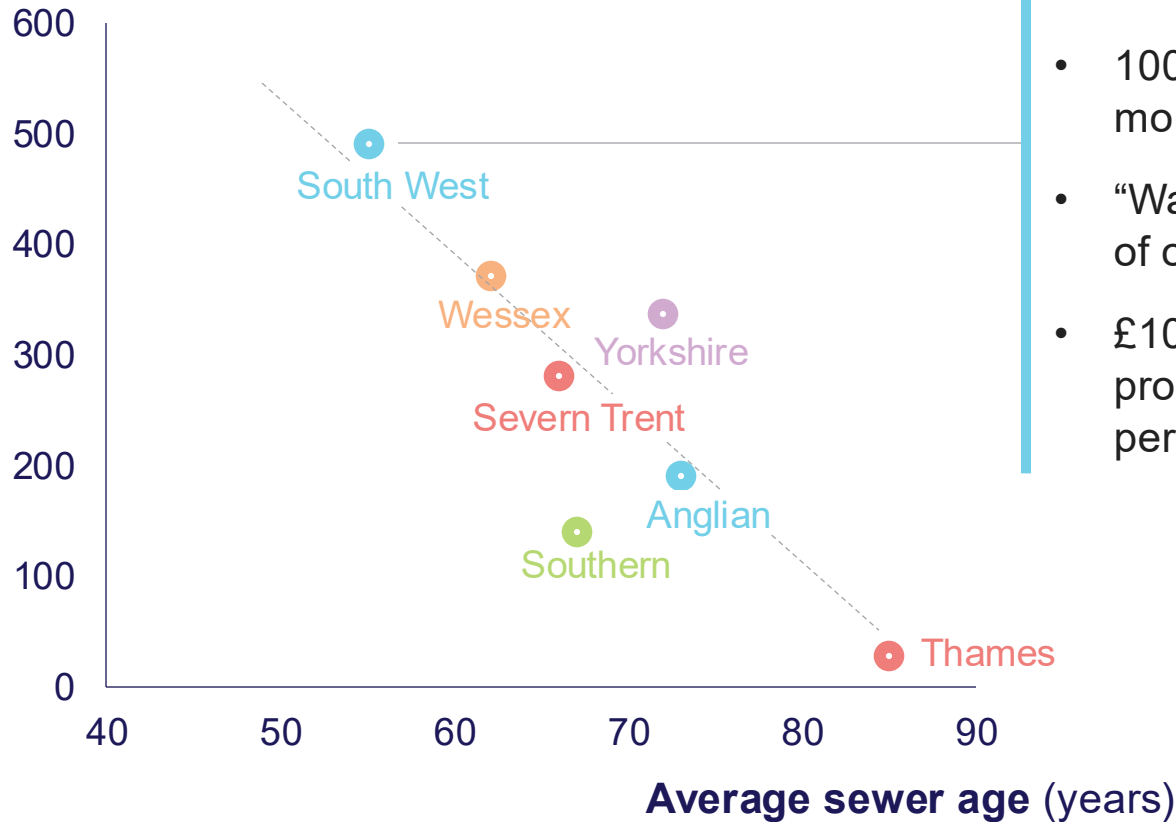
What is the most effective way to incentivise water / energy / transport companies to invest in their asset resilience?



2 Older sewer networks are less well monitored. This makes efficient operations more challenging and reduces transparency.

Wastewater case example

of monitored storm overflow outlets per bn RCV



South West Water moved quickly to universal monitoring and public transparency :

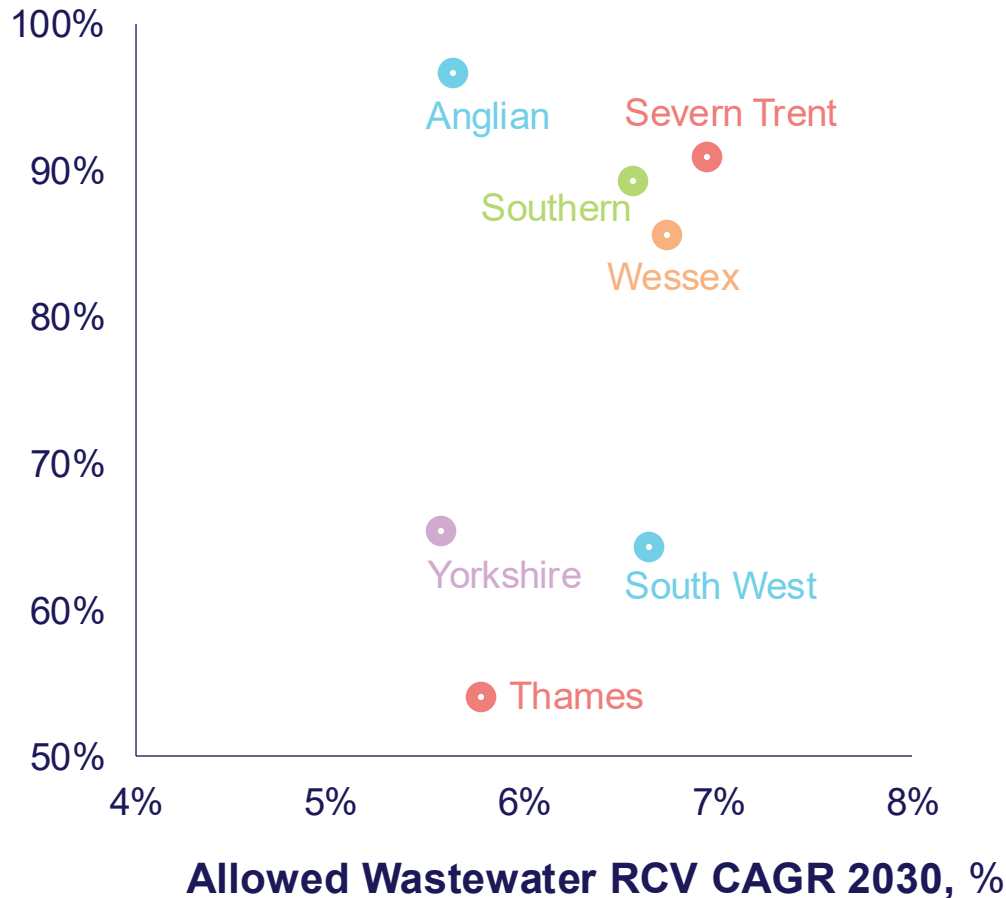
- 100% of storm overflows are now fitted with monitors.
- “WaterFit Live” publishes a near real-time map of overflow activity and bathing-water status.
- £100m+ WaterFit and £760m 2025–30 programmes fund spill reduction and performance tracking.

2 Asset resilience and RCV growth are not correlated; Are companies incentivised to invest in asset resilience or to grow their RCV?

Wastewater case example

Preliminary numbers, for discussion

Vallorii asset resilience index (%)



Vallorii asset resilience index

The asset resilience index reflects sensitivity to environmental stress.



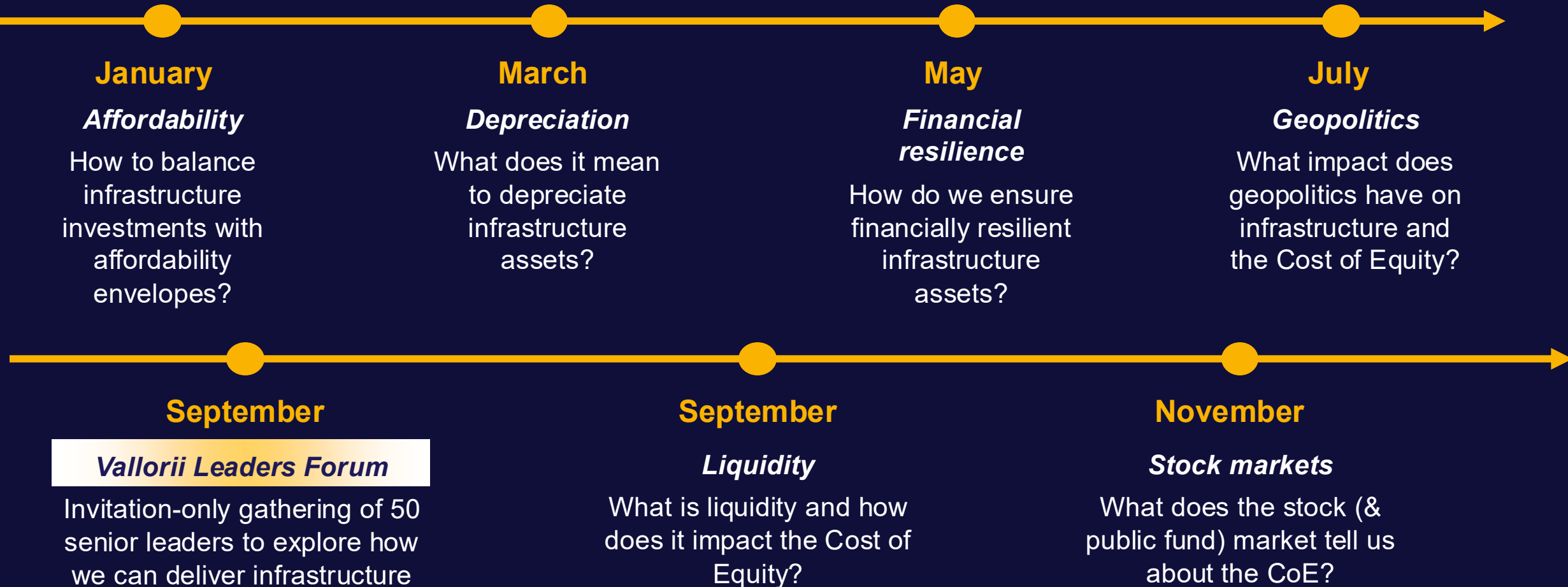
RCV growth (CAGR)

RCVs are growing across the sector. There is no correlation between the growth and the underlying asset resilience index.

Source: Vallorii asset resilience index, Ofwat documents, RCV growth from <https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/PR24-RoRE-Analysis.xlsx>, sewer age from: https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z_corporate-site/pr19/third-party/t6001_exogenous_drivers_of_wholesale_wastewater_costs.pdf

Our outlook for 2026: We build the VAPRI risk catalogue and discuss immediate impacts

Preliminary





VALLORII

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